



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**Health Care Authority/Medicaid Purchasing Administration**

## **Impact of HB 1086 on Health Care Authority and the Medical Purchasing Administration:**

Medical purchasing highlights of HB 1086, the budget bill signed by Governor Gregoire on Friday, February 18:

- This budget preserves the Basic Health Plan (BHP), but it reduces the program's funding and limits eligibility. Effective March 1, 2011, only those enrollees who are determined to be Transition Eligible under the 1115 Medicaid Demonstration waiver or are foster parents licensed under chapter 74.15 RCW will continue to be eligible for subsidized coverage. Basic Health notified approximately 17,000 members who had not submitted proof of citizenship or legal residency; who are under 19 or over 64 years of age; or whose countable income is over 133% of the Federal Income Guidelines. BHP also transitioned eligible children to Apple Health for Kids. Those notified were told they were no longer eligible for the program unless they could show they still qualify during a 30-day appeal process. Those able to prove their eligibility will be reinstated in Basic Health with retroactive coverage to March 1. (Updated 3/17)
- Meanwhile, Disability Lifeline-ADATSA clients will keep their medical coverage but lose half of the small monthly grants they live on. Disability Lifeline is funded through June 30.
- The budget bill directed MPA to drop eligibility for the Children's Health Program (current enrollment 27,000) from 300 percent of Federal Poverty Level to 200 percent as of April 1 but allow those families to continue their children's coverage by paying a higher premium that will cover the full cost of the program. MPA is waiting on enabling legislation (HB 2003) before that can occur. For the immediate future, no children are being disenrolled from the program. (Updated 3/15)
- The Interpreter Services program is being preserved through June 30.
- Medicaid funding for current adult physical, occupational and speech therapy will be cut in half. These services will be combined into one rehabilitation benefit, and the number of visits or units available will be limited for adults. Additional units may be granted in limited increments for certain surgeries or conditions. (Updated 3/2)
- The budget agreement would require significant reduction in the rates paid to community clinics.